



7555-01-P

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**

Agency Information Collection Activities: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation

**ACTION:** Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) has submitted the following information collection requirement to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13. This is the **second notice** for public comment; the first was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at 76 FR 74830, and no comments were received. NSF is forwarding the proposed renewal submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance simultaneously with the publication of this second notice. The full submission may be found at: <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Comments regarding (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be

collected; or (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for National Science Foundation, 725 - 17<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W. Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503, and to Suzanne H. Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 295, Arlington, Virginia 22230 or send email to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov). Comments regarding this information collection are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling 703-292-7556.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Suzanne Plimpton, the NSF Reports Clearance Officer, phone (703) 292-7556, or send e-mail to [splimpto@nsf.gov](mailto:splimpto@nsf.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339, which is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year (including federal holidays).

NSF may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Title of Collection:** Grantee Conflict of Interest Policies

**OMB Control No.:** 3145-NEW.

**Proposed Project:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent Federal agency created by the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 USC 1861-75). The Act states the purpose of the NSF is "to promote the progress of science; [and] to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare by supporting research and education in all fields of science and engineering."

NSF has had a unique place in the Federal Government: it is responsible for the overall health of science and engineering across all disciplines. In contrast, other Federal agencies support research

focused on specific missions such as health or defense. The Foundation also is committed to ensuring the nation's supply of scientists, engineers, and science and engineering educators.

NSF funds research and education in most fields of science and engineering. It does this through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 2,000 colleges, universities, K-12 school systems, businesses, informal science organizations and other research organizations throughout the US. The Foundation accounts for about one-fourth of Federal support to academic institutions for basic research.

NSF proposes to conduct a survey to determinate how NSF grantees identify, oversee, and manage financial conflicts of interest in research funded by NSF. This survey focuses on NSF's grantee's conflict of interest policies and procedures, and on any conflicts of interest that were identified and managed during FY 2010. By examining how NSF grantees have identified and managed their financial conflicts of interest, this survey will help the Foundation determine whether there are any areas for improvement in NSF's policies and guidelines.

**Use of the Information:** Analysis of the responses is necessary to determine whether there are any areas for improvement in NSF's policies and guidelines.

**Respondents:**

**Burden on the Public:** The Foundation estimates about 175 responses at approximately 15 hours per response; this computes to approximately 2625 burden hours annually.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,  
Reports Clearance Officer,  
National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2012-5075 Filed 03/01/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication  
Date: 03/02/2012]